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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1           1. (Currently Amended) A method for protecting data  
2 generated by a keyboard, comprising the steps of:  
3           reading data from a keypad of the keyboard;  
4           reading an encryption seed from a device reader  
5 directly connected to the keyboard;  
6           encrypting the read data using the encryption seed;  
7 and  
8           directly transmitting the encrypted data from the  
9 keyboard to a computer wherein the encrypted data is not  
10 transmitted via the device reader to the computer and the  
11 computer and the device reader are different devices.

1           2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprises  
2 the steps of receiving the transmitted encrypted data by the  
3 computer; and  
4           decrypting the received encrypted data by the  
5 computer.

1           3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step  
2 of transmitting comprises the step of using a wireless link over  
3 which the encrypted data is transmitted.

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1 4. (Canceled)

1 5. (Canceled)

1 6. (Canceled)

1 7. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1  
2 wherein the step of reading the encryption seed comprises the  
3 step of enabling the device reader with a personal identification  
4 number.

1 8. (Canceled)

1 9. (Currently Amended) A method for protecting data  
2 generated by a keyboard, comprising the steps of:  
3 generating a start signal by at least one of a special  
4 key on keyboard a keypad of the keyboard or multi-actuation of  
5 a number of keys on the keypad;  
6 reading data from [a] the keypad of the keyboard  
7 following generation of the start signal wherein the read data  
8 and the start signal are distinct;  
9 encrypting the read data in response to the start  
10 signal; and  
11 transmitting the encrypted data from the keyboard to a  
12 computer;  
13 receiving a unique stop signal from the keypad;

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14                    stopping the encryption of the read data and  
15                    transmission of the encrypted data from the keyboard to the  
16                    computer in response to the stop signal.

1                    10. (Canceled)

1                    11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 9  
2                    wherein the step of receiving the stop signal comprises the step  
3                    of generating the stop signal by at least one of a special key on  
4                    keyboard or multi-actuation of a number of keys on the keypad.

1                    12. (Canceled)

1                    13. (Canceled)

1                    14. (Canceled)

1                    15. (Canceled)

1                    16. (Canceled)

1                    17. (Canceled)

1                    18. (Canceled)

1                    19. (Canceled)

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1 20. (Canceled)

1 21. (Canceled)

1 22. (Canceled)

1 23. (Canceled)

1 24. (Canceled)

1 25. (Canceled)

1 26. (Currently Amended) A keyboard for encrypting  
2 data before transmission to a computer directly connected to  
3 the keyboard via a link, comprising:  
4 an interface connected to the link;  
5 a memory;  
6 a keypad for generating the data;  
7 a device reader interface for reading a directly  
8 connected device reader to obtain a seed for an encryption  
9 routine wherein the device reader and the computer are  
10 different devices;  
11 a processor for encrypting using the seed from the  
12 device reader the generated data from the keypad by execution  
13 of the encryption routine stored in the memory; and

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14           directly transmitting the encrypted data to the  
15 computer via the interface and link bypassing the device reader  
16 and device interface.

1           27. (Original) The keyboard of claim 26 wherein the  
2 link is a wireless link.

1           28. (Canceled)

1           29. (Canceled)

1           30. (Original) The keyboard of claim 26 comprises a  
2 special key which when actuated causes the processor to at  
3 least start executing the encryption routine or stop executing  
4 the encryption routine.

1           31. (Currently Amended) A processor-readable  
2 medium for protecting data generated by a keyboard,  
3 comprising processor-executable instructions configured for:  
4           reading data from a keypad of the keyboard;  
5           reading an encryption seed from a device reader  
6 directly connected to the keyboard;  
7           encrypting the read data using the encryption seed;  
8 and  
9           directly transmitting the encrypted data from the  
10 keyboard to a computer wherein the encrypted data is not

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11 transmitted via the device reader to the computer and the  
12 computer and the device reader are different devices.

1 32. (Original) The processor-readable medium of  
2 claim 31 wherein the transmitting comprises using a wireless  
3 link over which the encrypted data is transmitted.

1 33. (Canceled)

1 34. (Canceled)

1 35. (Canceled)

1 36. (Previously Amended) The processor-readable  
2 medium of claim 31 wherein the reading the encryption seed  
3 comprises enabling the device reader with a personal  
4 identification number.

1 37. (Canceled)

1 38. (Currently Amended) A processor-readable  
2 medium for protecting data generated by a keyboard,  
3 comprising processor-executable instructions configured for:  
4 generating a start signal by at least one of a special  
5 key on keyboard a keypad of the keyboard or multi-actuation of  
6 a number of keys on the keypad;

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7 reading data from [a] the keypad of the keyboard  
8 following generation of the start signal wherein the read data  
9 and the start signal are distinct;  
10 encrypting the read data in response to the start  
11 signal; and  
12 transmitting the encrypted data from the keyboard to a  
13 computer;  
14 receiving a unique stop signal from the keypad;  
15 stopping the encryption of the read data and  
16 transmission of the encrypted data from the keyboard to the  
17 computer in response to the stop signal.

1 39. (Canceled)

1 40. (Currently Amended) The processor-readable  
2 medium of claim 39 38 wherein the stop signal generated by at  
3 least one of a special key on keyboard or multi-actuation of a  
4 number of keys on the keypad.

1 41. (Canceled)

1 42. (Canceled)

1 43. (Canceled)

1 44. (Canceled)

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1 45. (Canceled)

1 46. (Canceled)

1 47. (Canceled)

1 48. (Canceled)